

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

for department store workers

VOL. 4, NO. 10

• 264

JANUARY 1, 1953

Press Spotlights CIO Voting, But Ignores Rest of Convention

While a majority of the nation's newspapers focussed their spotlight on the election of a president to succeed the late Philip Murray, all or most of them gave little or no coverage to much of the other important business which transpired when delegates gathered in Atlantic City for the 14th Constitutional Convention of CIO.

For three full days prior to the election of officers the delegates had discussed and adopted resolutions concerning almost every aspect of life, and had listened intently to speeches by such notable public leaders as Governor Adlai Stevenson and Senator Wayne Morse.

The election of Walter Reuther, head of the million-member United Auto Workers, as national President of CIO by a vote of 3,079,181 to CIO Executive Vice President Haywood's 2,613,203 did not reflect the split that large sections of big-business press had gleefully anticipated.

In his acceptance speech to the closing session of the convention, Reuther said, "Our enemies have been watching the proceedings of the convention sitting in the cock-bars of the Union League clubs and the millionaires' clubs all over America. Reading the stories in the press of the division in CIO has filled their hearts with hope, filled their minds with designs that if we are divided they can take us on and drive us back and rob us of our hard won social and economic gains. I say this to

(Continued on page 2)

January 15th Set For Local's March of Dimes

President Sam Kovenetsky has named January 15th "Local 1-S March of Dimes Day" and urges that every Union member "join the campaign for a more secure future by giving generously."

He said, "There isn't a parent alive who doesn't dread the very word 'Polio,' for fear of what it might do to his family. There is not an adult who can be sure that he or she will not be a victim. It is urgent, therefore, that we give as much as we can to the March of Dimes—the organization that is financing most of the research for means of preventing this horrible disease and which pays the bills and provides the care for its victims.

(Continued on page 4)



Walter Reuther

A spectacular start in United Auto Workers Local 174 in 1936 led to Walter Reuther's election to the UAW executive board that same year. In 1942 he was elected vice president and was chosen head of his union in 1946. A few months later he was elected a CIO vice president.

A veteran of industrial unionism, Reuther was active in the Detroit and Flint sitdown strikes and in the brutal "Battle of the Overpass" which finally brought the giant Ford Company to recognize the union of its workers.

Back Pay Comes For Holiday



Fifth Floor workers from many departments gleefully inspect their pay envelopes which contain both a raise and retroactive pay for everyone hired on or before last April 2. See story on Page 4.

All Members To Vote In 1-S Election Of Officers Jan. 22-23

With January 22 and 23 set as the days on which members of Local 1-S will cast their ballots for the officers who will lead the fight against Macy's for higher pay and security over the next two years, thousands of men and women who have a vital stake in the outcome of the election are taking an active hand to help guarantee that every eligible member exercises his right to vote. A preliminary report released by

the Election and Objections Committee, which is the group responsible for the conduct of the election, shows that more than two thousand men and women had signed nominating petitions in order to assure the candidate of their choice a place on the ballot.

Signatures Verified

Following the December 14 deadline for filing petitions, the Elections Committee, headed by Chairman George Schick, had the job of checking each individual signature against the Union's records to determine the standing of all those who signed and to guard against duplication of signatures of two candidates for the same office.

The Committee will submit its report to the membership at the January 6 meeting, by which time each person designated on the petitions will have been called upon to either accept or decline the nomination. The names of those candidates who are certified by the Committee and who accept nomination will then appear on the voting machines at the Union office and on the printed ballots to be used at the branch stores.

Posts To Be Filled

All of the Union's executive positions must be filled in the coming elections. They are: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, three Trustees, three Welfare Board members-at-large and two Sergeants-at-Arms.

While it is the expressed hope of the Union's officers that all eligible members will be sure to vote because they recognize the importance of making the demonstration,

(Continued on page 2)

Official Notice GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6th, 7 P.M.

MANHATTAN CENTER
34th Street & 8th Avenue

\$2 Assessment to the Welfare Fund for unexcused absence
Admission by 1952 or '53 Union Card only

...And To You And Yours—A Very Happy New Year!

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BRANCH STORE NEWS

PARKCHESTER

With all of the Christmas rush and everything that unfortunately goes with it we have a growing list of people on the sick roster. Included are Eve Auffant, Rose Nisito and Lillian Lewkowitz, all of P10 and all out with nasty colds . . . Jim Sullivan (P8) and Frances Hagemeier (P12) are both in the hospital and we hope that they will be back with us real soon . . . Our deepest sympathy to Florence Bettley (P10) on her loss . . . And in the midst of so much bad news and sadness there comes a little ray of light. Irene Keuhn gave birth to a baby boy — and our own Administrator, Jack Jampole has been handing out cigars and smiles because his wife just presented him with one of same (the second!) Congratulations to both of you ! ! . . Dorothea Dolan (P10) is home from the hospital, but still is not back at work. We do hope to see you soon, Dot . . . Cooperation on the collection of the Defense Fund has been tops. Everyone owes himself a real pat on the back and each of us owes everyone else a good, rousing cheer. The money has really been coming in, so let's keep it going . . . January 6th membership meeting should be taking up lots of very important business, what with the contract expiring on February 1st, so let's all plan to be there!



Margaret Lyons

FLATBUSH

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Mark another year at Macy's. Time really flies . . . We can look forward to lots of important things popping this year. Elections and the coming negotiations for a new, and still better, contract, top the list. Both of them are vital to the well-being of every single member and should be given all-out support! . . . The Flatbush Hobby Club donated funds to the Cerebral Palsy Fund . . . Hey! Our own Administrator, Jack Jampole, became a father for the second time. Mmm boy . . . Catherine Dennigan, from the Notions Department, leaves us to await the stork . . . Harriet Gold is a mother of a baby girl . . . Wedding anniversaries seem to head all lists. Rhoda Vlack celebrates her 18th anniversary, along with Joan Leonard and Ruth Waldman, both celebrating 25 years of wedded bliss, and Betty Sondike marking her 26th year of happy matrimony. WOW! . . . Welcome back Annetta Stulz, after seven weeks of illness . . . Harvey Schreiber (FBR) will wed in January and has our very best wishes . . . Our deepest sympathy to Grace Savasta upon the loss of her brother . . . Let's not forget that we have a General membership meeting on Tuesday, January 6th at Manhattan Center. With lots of important business coming up, let's all be sure to be there!



Mel Meinyk

WHITE PLAINS

Most of us said that we were not going to work Macy's famous Christmas attendance bonus — and then we saw dollar signs in front of our eyes and started working. It's at this time of the year that management not only gets our blood and sweat, but our tears as well. The reason many of us work the bonus is that advantage is being taken of us in any case and so we might as well work and get paid for it. Individuals holding out can't change the picture. It will take the whole membership, working together, to do that! . . . The following people are on our White Plains nominating committee for the coming election of a Store Committee: Eileen Kayser (W5), Helen Ruderman (W10), Mamie Branch (W11), Tom Melella (W12), Jack Kenney (W2), Pete Gilhooley (WKP), Frances Petlock (W8) and Helen Irving (W5). The Committee intends to have a meeting some time in January, to discuss means of advising the entire White Plains membership of the issues involved in the election . . . Carmen Guzzi (Women's Hats) has been chosen "Miss Sales-Maid." We hope that winning this contest will open a long road of success to you, Carmen . . . Our sincere condolences to Rose Matthews (Housekeeping) on the loss of her brother . . . We're glad that Mrs. Miller (Service Desk) and Mrs. Healy (Fabrics) are back after their illnesses. Sorry that Miss Greenough (Women's Dresses) is out ill again . . . Very best wishes to Irene Caciolo (Women's Dresses) on her engagement.

JAMAICA

We would like to congratulate and welcome back our fine friends Vera Meehan and Kay Dickmann. Both of them were out on maternity leave — Vera with a bouncing baby boy and Kay with a fine girl. Congratulations and the best of luck to both of you . . . Our best wishes also go to Novella Webb (J3) who was married on December 20th and to Georgina Novella (J15) who is now waiting for wedding bells to chime . . . Kitty Brucato has a big smile behind the Soda Fountain. She has just recently become the very proud grandmother of a baby boy . . . Evelyn Korn (J5) is out because of illness, and we're all hoping that she'll be back with us real soon . . . Our condolences to Joe Mondella and Charlie Masterson. Both their fathers passed away recently . . . Big and important general membership meeting coming up on January 6th. With our contract expiring on February 1st it is especially urgent that every person be at Manhattan Center to show our unity and our strength! . . . Our Defense Fund collections are going real well — which is one important way of showing Macy's that we're not going to take any nonsense. Everybody knows that the act of paying the Defense Fund assessment adds up to a very impressive monthly demonstration, so let's keep it going in high gear!



Alfred Chiarella

Election of Officers . . .

(Continued from page 1)

democratic process work, the Local 1-S Constitution and By-Laws provide, in Article X, Section 10 that, "Should any eligible member fail to vote at the election for officers of the Union, such member shall be liable for a \$1.00 assessment to the Welfare Fund unless excused."

Importance of Vote

With the Union's contract with Macy's due to expire just one week after the Local 1-S membership goes to the polls, a special significance attaches to the election. For the workers who are elevated to high Union position by the votes of their co-workers there will be hardly a breathing spell before being plunged into what is expected to prove to be the hardest battle in the entire history of the Union.

In answer to Macy's declaration that they would seek to cut pay, it will be left to the voting members to place in the key Union jobs those people they think best able to meet the company's threat of all-out war.

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(Continued from page 1)

Since management that the Union means business and has the financial ability to fully protect the interests of the members in case victory depends on a strike.

Said President Kovenetsky, "In 1953 the membership will not have to worry about whether we can afford to strike, because we are dealing with that problem right now. The only question that will have to be answered before the people vote for or against a walkout will be, 'Is this what we must do to win a decent raise and security guarantees?'

"We can expect that the very fact that we will be capable of hitting with the force of a sledgehammer will make Macy's a lot more reasonable than they would normally be. That's why the continued building of the Defense Fund is an absolute necessity!"

Fund Returnable

The entire fund will be liquidated and returned to the contributors as soon as a contract is signed, provided that no strike has been necessary. Persons who are laid off, however, may apply for their refund at the Union office, after which they will receive a check for the full amount they have paid in. If such a person is recalled to the store he must pay back into the fund the same amount he would have paid had he not left, except for the period during which he was laid off.

Weak Spots

The records which are being kept at the Union office for each department, show just a few weak spots in the Defense Fund set-up. Since it is possible that a Shop Steward may be out ill, or for other reasons be unable to carry out this program, it is urgent that members from departments in which no collections have been made report to the Union office as soon as possible. In such a case the job may be assigned to someone else or the members may jointly assume the responsibility for collecting and turning in the funds.

**FREE
LEGAL AID CLINIC
at the
UNION OFFICE
Every Wednesday
5 to 7 P.M.**

New Executive Board, Too

Elections for Executive Board representatives will begin at the first Divisional Meeting to be held after January 1, and will continue until all the Divisions have voted on their spokesmen.

The Executive Board, which is the ruling body of the Union between membership meetings, is also the source of manpower for all of the Union's standing committees and most of the special committees which are named for specific purposes.

The officers and the executive board, together, are responsible

for making and carrying out Union policy, subject to the approval of the membership. It is because many of the policy decisions and actions taken have a direct bearing on the wages and working conditions of the Local's 8000 members that tremendous interest centers on the coming elections.

Incumbent President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents George Gurian and Elizabeth Hammond, in a simple pre-election statement, said, "Every member will serve his own interests by participating in these all-important elections. Be sure to vote!"

CIO Convention . . .

(Continued from page 1) the men who sit on the plush cushions in the Union League clubs of America, I say this to you who are delegates, and I say it for the millions of CIO members back home, that the fat men on the plush cushions are wrong. We are not going out of here divided; we are going out of here united to carry on this struggle until we win.

"In the halls of government we will speak with one voice. We shall stand together at the collective bargaining tables doing the practical work of the bread and butter front, and when the reactionary management are unwilling to sit down in good faith, give the workers of America through collective bargaining their just rewards, I say we shall exhaust every means of resolving these issues across the bargaining table through the use of logic and reason, but, failing to get economic justice through that process, we shall march together on the picket lines of America getting what is ours."

Resolutions

The main business of the convention was embodied in a total of more than 50 resolutions on such a variety of subjects as "Inflation," "Health," "Workmen's Compensation" and "Civil Rights." On inflation the convention had this to say: "The CIO calls upon the Administration to suspend wage controls . . . urges the new Congress to enact legislation that will make possible effective and comprehensive anti-inflation controls . . ."

On a health program: "The CIO reaffirms its support for a national health program with needed medical services, facilities and personnel. Such a program must include expanded federal aid to medical research, to state and local public health units, to medical and nursing education and medical cooperatives, to maternal and child health care, and to an effective mental health program. It must also include a system of national health insurance, geared in with old-age and survivors insurance . . ."

On Workmen's Compensation: "We call upon the incoming President to institute an immediate and comprehensive investigation of workmen's compensation, and, if the investigation discloses the desirability of national workmen's compensation legislation, as we are confident it will, to recommend the enactment of such legislation."

On Immigration Policy: "The CIO urges that the McCarran-Walter Act be repealed and be replaced by a new policy . . . which will be consistent with 20th century conditions and ideals."

On Civil Liberties: "We call upon the Congress to review and revise existing security laws, such as the Smith Act and the Sub-

versive Activities Control Act, so that the security of the nation shall be safeguarded against acts of espionage and sabotage without subjecting individuals to persecution on the basis of speech and advocacy alone; We record our opposition to any laws or activities of Congressional committees which restrict freedom of thought, press, assembly or association, or impose conformity of thought and deed, and thereby stifle the independent views and experimentation which have in the past contributed so substantially to the progress and greatness of our nation."

On Social Security: "We call upon our affiliates to support improved state legislation in the field of unemployment insurance, and other social programs . . ."

On Taft-Hartley: "The CIO will continue with all of its energies and resources to seek the ultimate repeal of the unfair and unjust Taft-Hartley Act . . ."

Role of Local 1-S

Translation of convention resolutions from words to deeds depends on all Local unions, including Local 1-S. Action will depend upon the executive board and the readiness of the membership to play an active part in support of some or all of the objectives set forth by the convention.

Pay Now!

All subscriptions to the Local 1-S NEWS expire on January 1st. Be sure to bring in, or send in your dollar bill for 1953 as soon as you possibly can, as provided for in our Union's Constitution.

We try to fill each of our 21 issues a year with news of interest and importance to you. If you have not found what you're looking for, just drop us a note and we'll see what can be done. If the paper pleases you—we're pleased. But in either case—PAY YOUR \$1 NOW!

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, enters the hospital you MUST call on the Union office for claim forms immediately on entering or as soon as possible thereafter.

Protect yourself—protect your family—protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

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Macy's: Merchants of Misery—Part III

By DICK PASTOR

WHAT WENT BEFORE . . .

In the two previous installments we established the fact that Macy's deliberately makes it as tough as possible for legitimate claimants to secure their rights under the Workmen's Compensation Law. We proved that Macy's will fight a worker's claim even though such a fight will, in the end, cost the company large sums of money.

We showed how the insurance companies and their big-business clients lobbied for, and won, changes in the law which now guarantees them their money before a compensation lawyer can receive a fee. And we showed how, from this, many workers have had a hard time finding a lawyer to take their case.

From this we concluded that the total effect of Macy's policy plus management-sponsored changes in the law was to discourage people

from filing claims—and that fewer claims helped take the company off the spot by leaving fewer occasions on which they had to show their open contempt and callous disregard for the people they hire!

Protect Your Rights

"My plea," said I-S Compensation Attorney Joseph DeFede, "is that any injury, no matter how trivial it may seem, should be reported as soon as it happens. When a worker goes to the doctor he should always be sure to mention any accident that may have preceded his ailment, even if it seems completely unrelated. Failure to give the doctor all the details only complicates the lawyer's job of establishing medical proof of a relationship between the accident and the ailment. If accidents are not reported, we start with two strikes against us."

The case of Mrs. "W" is a good example of the lawyer's point.

Mrs. "W" had nine years of Macy service when in February of 1950 she bent to pick up some heavy merchandise. As a result of her strenuous effort she suffered a back and groin injury which she never reported. She was treated by her own doctors, paid her own medical bills and lost a week from work.

But in February of 1952 Mrs. "W" had to stop work. She came to the Union's lawyer, only to learn that her claim was outlawed because more than two years had elapsed since the date of the original accident.

Investigation revealed, however, that just prior to her being forced to stop work in 1952 Mrs. "W" had had a new accident which had aggravated her earlier injury. On this basis alone it was possible to file the claim which is now pending and through which every effort will be made to re-secure some of the rights Mrs. "W" had previously sacrificed.

Fear of Filing

Many workers, particularly those already at or beyond middle age, are afraid to file legitimate claims for fear of antagonizing their employer, with possible loss of their job resulting. Many of these feel it is better to suffer in silence, pay the bills and keep on the boss' "good side" than to exercise their legal rights. This may

be tragically true of those workers who do not have the benefit of protection under a Union contract—but it could not be farther from the truth for members of Local 1-S!

Our contract with Macy's is the best guarantee of full protection for all of everybody's rights. Because you cannot be discriminated against and because you cannot be transferred or laid-off out of seniority you are free to exercise your rights and protect them.

Don't Hesitate

There is no need to hesitate or delay, as Mrs. "R" did, when it comes to filing a compensation claim.

Mrs. "R" had been selling in Macy's for eleven years when, in November of 1950, her foot was stepped on by a customer. That seemingly minor incident led to Hematoma, or blood tumor. Only when the foot became swollen and painful did she go to the Macy doctor who treated her for athlete's foot!

Her foot continued to become worse, a lump began to form at her small toe—and only then, more than seven months after the accident did she file a claim for compensation!

Who Is Responsible?

Responsibility for these dangerous and unnecessary delays can be

traced to Macy's policy of making it as difficult and as complicated as possible for the workers to file a claim and present their evidence in support of such a claim. But the individual must also be charged with some of the blame. Said Local 1-S President Sam Kovenetsky, "If an injured worker would stop for just one moment and realize that he has the full support of the Union behind him he would not hesitate for one second, because he would know that he has nothing to fear from the company—regardless of what their policy is. More people should stop and think of the difference between what Macy's would like to do and what they can do! Macy's has been able to get away with a lot because the people have not fought for their rights—and they haven't fought because they didn't stop long enough to realize that they don't have to fight alone.

I hope that every member will take Mr. DeFede's words to heart and report every accident, no matter how minor, when it happens. I also hope that more and more people will call on their Union for help when it comes to protecting their rights under the Compensation Law or any other law.

"Only then will Macy's policy become unimportant compared with the people's ability to defend all their rights!"

Blood Bank Fills Vital Health Need

Many stories have been written of spectacular efforts to rush blood for transfusion to seriously ill, wounded or injured victims. What almost every such story fails to mention is the staggering bill that usually awaits the civilian who must call on a blood bank in time of crisis.

But we could tell hundreds of stories—stories of members of Local 1-S, of their husbands or wives or children who were stricken and needed blood in their fight to stay alive. Blood to strengthen them before an operation—Blood to help them recover from an operation—Healthy blood to replace unhealthy—Blood to replace blood lost in accidents. Blood by the pint, by the quart and by the gallon—and thanks to the teamwork of a thousand donors, none of it costs a penny!

Most cases aren't "exciting" in any adventuresome sense of the word. Usually it is just a telephone call from the 1-S member, or a member of his family, asking that one, two or more pints of blood be released and giving the patient's name and the name of the hospital.

But the cases of Laura Wilkerson (2nd Floor Packer-Cashier) and her cousin, Dorothy Taylor (6th Floor Packer-Cashier) were different. The Union's part in the fight to keep both of them alive began when Vice President Elizabeth Hammond received a call from the Middlesex Hospital in Brunswick, New Jersey. The caller identified himself, told Miss Hammond that he had called because hospital authorities had found their Union cards and Local 1-S Health Plan identification cards. He reported that they had both been critically injured in an auto accident on the New Jersey Turnpike and both of them needed blood—FAST!

While Miss Hammond was on the telephone obtaining the release of blood from the Red Cross bank, Administrator Mabel Murther was getting ready for a trip. When she arrived at Red Cross the bottles of blood were waiting and were packed on ice in special containers.

With that precious package in her hands, Mabel sped to Penn Station and boarded a train for New Brunswick. Within two hours of the time that the call had been received she was handing the bottled blood over to the waiting doctors.

Today, thanks to the Local 1-S Health Plan which paid a substantial part of their doctor and hospital bills, and the Local 1-S Blood Bank which provided the aid they needed at no cost, both Laura and Dorothy are well on the road to full recovery.

There's a simple reason for telling this story, and a simple moral to be drawn. The reason: Sometime in late February there will be another Blood Bank drive, so that all through 1953 those in need can confidently turn to their Union for help.

The Moral: 8,000 men and women built Local 1-S and by working together have won raises and security. The same 8,000 men and women, by pooling their strength and know-how, won a Health Plan, have organized a Medical plan and have, by working together accomplished things that no single person could even hope to do.

The continued operation of the Blood Bank will be up to you. You can guarantee yourself and your family the best, all-round insurance by giving a pint of blood. Be sure to sign the Blood Bank Pledge sheet when it comes through your department—for the sake of those you love the most!

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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LOCAL 1-S, UNITED DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO
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President: Sam Kovenetsky

1st Vice Pres.: George Gurian—2nd Vice Pres.: Elizabeth Hammond

Editorial Board

Clarence Lanman

Editor: Dick Pastor

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Members Assured More Welfare Aid After N. Y. Fund Meetings



Local 1-S Welfare Board representative Jack Fox (arrow) and leaders of other unions meet with New York Fund officials to discuss welfare services available to members in need of medical and other aid.

Local 1-S Welfare Board member Jack Fox and representatives of fifteen other unions attended the first meeting of a counselling committee of CIO locals in the board room of the Greater New York Fund. They devoted a two hour session to study of 423 hospital, health and welfare facilities available to organized labor through the Fund, as well as those available through public welfare.

Similar sessions of the group were scheduled for four additional Mondays.

Jack Fox and others attending the sessions are expected to aid in forming committees on community service for the purpose of interpreting welfare and health needs and the support of the Fund to the members of Local 1-S and in

the respective unions of the others present.

Brother Fox is probably best known to members of Local 1-S for the very active role he played in helping to organize the Union's medical plan. His tireless efforts were largely instrumental in bringing to the Union's members the benefits of the Associated Physician's Medical Group.

The meetings of union representatives and leaders of the Greater New York Fund were aimed at familiarizing the labor groups with the many services which may be utilized by their members. The idea for the gatherings came into being because it was learned that while many Union members contributed to the Fund, very few of them knew what services were offered or how to go

about enlisting the aid of any of the Fund's participating agencies.

As a result of Jack Fox's presence at the meetings of the group it is expected that the Local 1-S Welfare Board will be much better equipped to help in the handling of most types of health and welfare problems.

WELFARE BOARD

Meets

Second Tuesday

of

Every Month

7 P.M.

at the

UNION OFFICE

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Santa Claus (With Union Label) Distributes Retroactive Pay

Santa Claus, wearing a Union label, spent December 10, 11 and 12 making the rounds of Herald Square and the Branch Stores. In his bag he had goodly sized packages of back pay for all members of Local 1-S who were in the store 30 days or more as of last May 2nd.

How Santa got there is quite a tale. First of all, he didn't want to make the trip. He said that, according to Macy's the people working in the store were making enough to think that every day was

a holiday. After a lot of arguing, starting last February 1st, he finally gave in and arrived disguised as an arbitrator. But Macy's made things so hot for him that he packed his bags and left.

After that it took more arguing and thousands of people who were fighting mad because Macy's had sent him packing, to bring him back. Legend has it that Santa is a pretty independent fellow, but everyone knows that this time he had no choice. His pre-Christmas appearance at Macy's was a com-

mand performance, with Local 1-S doing the ordering! And while everybody knows that he and his helpers are usually very jolly fellows, it must be faithfully recorded that this year his helpful bag-filers were all gloomy Macy executives who got no joy out of stuffing the extra dollars into those little bags called pay envelopes. The only comfort they got was the thought that much of it would come right back to them by way of holiday gift shopping.

Accuracy also demands that we

TO THE EDITOR

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to Administrator Mabel Murther, my Shop Steward, and everyone concerned in helping me to win my case.

After working eight years in Department 137 (Nursery Furniture) I was reduced on a budget cut. Following this, I worked in three different departments. Six weeks ago I was called for a better job, got my interview and would have gotten the job—but discovered that my last review from Department 137 was so bad that it was impossible for me to get it. This last review was on my record without my knowledge and had never been made known to me. As it stood, it appeared that I was on my way out of the store entirely—and all because of this one bad review made by my buyer at that time. She and I had a disagreement and it appeared that she had used it against me on my review.

Other employees of the department, as well as I, felt that it was unfair and unjust. I immediately went to Mrs. Murther, presented my case and, after a lot of work and persistence, I was finally called to the better job.

Mrs. Jennie Lewis

WONDERFUL FEELING

Please accept my sincerest thanks for your kindness during my recent illness.

What a wonderful feeling to have the benefit of the advantages provided by our Union when things get rough. It was all handled so promptly, too.

The get-well card and gift was deeply appreciated and were great morale boosters.

Gratefully,
Anna Finn, F6

WELL INFORMED

I want to take this occasion to thank you for your lovely cards and gifts which have cheered me up during the past months. Also for our wonderful paper which has kept me so well informed. And, to the Health Plan which has lessened my financial burdens. For all this I can only say thanks and thanks again and again.

To my co-workers who have also sent beautiful cards and gifts and kept me posted with everything, I wish to express my deepest appreciation.

With best wishes to Local 1-S and all it stands for, I am,

Sincerely yours,
Gertrude Wernick, 88 Dept.

AMAZED AND DISGUSTED

I was amazed and disgusted to read the item in your issue of December 15th, under the heading of "Board Reviews Work—sub-heading "Discipline." Somebody has somehow given you the wrong information.

In the first place the charges against Frances Hagemeyer of the "circulation of malicious rumors" etc. were not proven. Secondly, charges were never brought by other departments in which Miss Hagemeyer had worked. Finally, to the best of my knowledge (second hand) she has never received any notification of suspension.

In absolute contradiction to the charges by other departments, I know that many members of other departments where she had worked, together with several members from her own department, including myself, signed a statement that we had always been able to work well with her. (In fact, many of these signatories had given up their own time to travel downtown to the meeting at which Miss Hagemeyer had to appear to testify in her behalf.

Furthermore, when the petitioners were asked if they had seen Miss Hagemeyer carrying tales to company executives, the answer was always, "I heard."

If any maliciousness was shown at all, it was by the petitioners who formed a "caucus" for reasons best known to themselves. Maybe these same people would be better advised to think over the quotation from Robert Burns poem. "I wish to God, the giftie' gie' us. To see ourselves as others see us."

Perhaps these petitioners feel satisfied that their cruel behavior has resulted in Miss Hagemeyer's ill health—she is at present very sick in a hospital through the effects of the ordeal she has suffered.

Let justice be done and the true facts be made known and a retraction of misstatements be made.

Very truly yours,
Henry Baron, P12

EDITOR'S NOTE

On Tuesday evening, November 25 the Local 1-S Executive Board heard a report from the Union's Discipline Committee on charges brought against Miss Hagemeyer by a group of her co-workers in Parkchester.

The charges were that she had circulated "malicious rumors and accusations against co-workers" and had carried such tales to management.

LOCAL 1-S DELEGATES TO "LABOR ISRAEL" CONFERENCE HAIL GAINS

By ROBERT ASHBY

By invitation from the Organizing Committee of Labor Israel (Histadrut) Local 1-S Executive Board member Anne Berman and Shop Stewards Cecelia Curry (Flying Squad), Anne Canatori (232) and Robert Ashby (11) attended the 29th Annual Convention held at the Hotel Commodore. Their report follows:

Some three thousand trade union delegates from throughout the

report that members of Local 1-S were quick to recognize the real Santa, because hundreds of them called WA 4-4540 or visited 290 Seventh Avenue to see President Sam Kovenetsky and say, "Thanks for what you did to help make this a very pleasant holiday."

MARCH OF DIMES...

(Continued from Page 1)
times regardless of age, race, creed or national origin. And which has given unlimited aid to members of our Union who were stricken."

Financial assistance provided by the March of Dimes is in no sense "charity." It is help freely made available by the American people through their own contributions which are given voluntarily to assure every polio victim maximum opportunity for recovery.

All Shop Stewards will receive official March of Dimes Scrolls from the Union office and are urged to circulate them throughout their departments on January 15th. A leaflet distribution will precede the collection so that all members will know that it's coming and will be prepared to participate.

United States and Canada assembled on the occasion of the 29th Annual Convention of the National Committee for Labor Israel and its report to the American Trade Union Council. It was a report based on the achievements of Labor Israel, and one of which they may feel deservedly proud.

Highlighted in the addresses by the numerous notable guests were the many and sincere tributes to the memory of labor's two late and great leaders, Philip Murray of the CIO and William Green, AFL.

Divided only by the simple matter of union affiliations, both good men had devoted their lives to advancing the status, the security and the living standards of the millions whose very livelihood depends on their physical labor.

Solemn respects were paid to the memory of the late Dr. Chaim Weizman, first President of the new, but "up and coming" State of Israel, whose powerful character and tenacity of purpose finally helped establish a national homeland for the Jewish people.

On display, and for sale, as concrete evidence of the craftsmanship and skill of Israel's workers were items many and varied. From silk-soft knitted woolens in attractive designs to shiny plaques in hammered copper; from unusually attractive costume jewelry to rugged, but good looking footwear, Labor Israel bids well for a high spot in world trade.

The Conference concluded with a solemn hymn in an atmosphere of friendly cordiality, which well betokens the solidarity and strength of workers united.

PERSONALS

FOR SALE—New Living Room set, Bendix automatic washer, Coldspot refrigerator, Howell dinette set, Zenith radio-phonograph, Magee wood twist rugs, wardrobe, stove, steel base cabinet, Boltaflex rocker. All in excellent condition. Best offer accepted. Call RA 8-0572 after 7 P.M.

WANTED—5 or 6 rooms for three adults any location. Rent to \$60. Phone GE 8-0307 after 7:30 P.M.

WANTED—3½ or 4 rooms Queens, Bronx or Manhattan. Reasonable rent. Need is urgent! Phone EX-2-1956.

Personal ads for the Local 1-S NEWS must be received at the Union office by the 1st or 15th day of each month. Ads received on the 1st will appear in the issue dated the 15th. Those received on the 15th will appear in the issue dated the 1st of the following month. This is offered as a service to members of Local 1-S and there is no charge for personal ads.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK—if you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL Elizabeth Hammond at the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

A BLOOD DONOR

I wish to thank the Union for the kindness shown me when I asked for help in obtaining a blood donor for my father-in-law.

We particularly want to thank Jim Holeringer and Jerry Navratil—Jim for his untiring efforts in our behalf and Jerry for his donation of blood.

Thanking you all again, I am,
Sincerely,
Mary D. Ireland, W13

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